REMARKS

After this amendment, claims 8-17 remain pending in this application.

By this amendment, we have amended the claims as indicated in the listing of the claims in response to the Office action.

In response to the rejection of claims 8-11 and 13-16 under 35 USC 102(a) as being obvious over Linkner et al. (WO 97/33287, hereinafter referred to as Linkner) in view of Maruno et al (JP 55-145308, hereinafter referred to as Maruno), we make the following specific remarks. Note that we have cited the specific claim numbers.

Claims 8 and 13: We disagree with the examiner in his rejection as far as the winding material and the adhesive material are concerned. What is claimed is that the winding is being formed of baked enamel wire and that there is an additional adhesive (a low-viscosity potting material) that makes the winding hold together. Linkner uses an insulated magnet wire (see, for example, page 2, line 17) that is not able to give rigidity to the coil. This coil has to be stabilized by the first layer 35 and the second layer 36 of polyimide tape to enhance the structural integrity of the coil (see page 6, last paragraph of Linkner).

With regard to Maruno, we agree that there is a baked enamel wire mentioned. But this baked enamel wire is not used to establish an intrinsic stable connection of the winding before the epoxy resin is applied. This means that if the

use of the baked enamel wire of Maruno were transferred to the coils of Linkner, either the first or second layers 35, 36 or an additional winding carrier (as is conventional) would be necessary to give enough stability to the coil before the epoxy resin is applied and hardened by heating.

Instead, in the description of the pending application, it is clearly stated that after the coil has been wound, the windings of the coil are held together (see page 2, second paragraph). This is due to the fact that the coil is made of baked enamel wire which is heated after winding of the coil.

Neither Linkner nor Maruno describes the manufacture of a rigid coil that can be installed in the magnet pot and the fixed by means of an additional low-viscosity potting material at the magnet pot or a toroidal cup.

Claim 9: Except the pot core 50 of Linkner there is no other pot described by Linkner. For this reason, we submit that there is no additional toroidal cup disclosed by Linkner.

Claim 10: We agree that Linkner discloses a pot core (50). But the pot core of Linkner is not chamfered, but rounded. The rounded edges of the pot core does not serve to seal the pot core with a toroidal cup as described in the pending application (see description of Figs. 2 and 3 of the pending application).

Claims 11, 15 and 16: The plastic part (5) further enhances the sealing and stability of the coil, not shown in the prior art.

Claim 14: The invention allows not only to build smaller coils, but by applying an additional low-viscosity potting material if the coil is in the magnet pot or in the toroidal cup, that the coil need not be separated from a fluid like fuel. The coil described by Linkner is separated from the fuel that flows through the valve by the sleeve 16 (see Figs. 1 and 3 of Linkner). This gives an additional reduction of the size of the magnet valve.

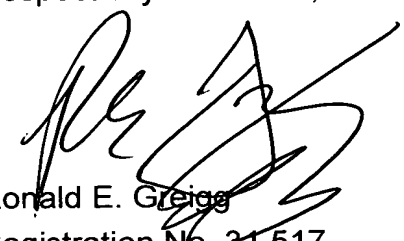
Even if it were obvious to use the magnet coil in fuel pump environment, the claimed coil is able to work in these conditions. This is due to the low-viscosity potting material. The cited prior art gives no hint that the use in a fuel pump environment is possible. All embodiments of Linkner shows a sleeve 16.

In response to the rejection of claims 12 and 17, under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over Onoda et al (JP 01-131332, hereinafter referred to as Onoda), in view of Maruno, we make the following remarks.

Claims 12 and 17: Additional to above remarks regarding Maruno, we note that the method of Onoda comprises an additional step of "forming an insulating coat 16" compared to claim 12. This means that the claimed method is even more efficient. Another very important difference is that the insulating coating seals the coil from the resin that is applied later. As a result, the physical and the thermal properties (i.e., stability and heat conduction) of a coil produced according to the method described by Onoda are worse than if the coil were produced according to claims 12 and 17.

Since we have amended the claims to overcome the prior art and further defined each of the claims over the applied prior art, we believe that the claims, as pending, are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the allowance of claims 8-17 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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